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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Identical letters dated 14 January 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations committed from 17 to 31 December 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Majdi **Ramadan**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the identical letters dated 14 January 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israeli violations, acts of aggression and other activities from 17 to 31 December 2008

Air violations

On 17 December 2008:

- At 0900 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over areas of the South before leaving over Rumaysh at 0200 hours on 18 December 2008;
- Between 1006 and 1042 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Kafr Killa;
- At 1012 hours, four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1105 hours; two of the warplanes left over Naqurah, while the other two left over the sea off Tripoli, heading in the direction of Turkey;
- Between 1123 and 1128 hours, two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering from over the sea off Rumaylah. They proceeded south before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b.

On 18 December 2008, between 1730 and 1900 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft flew at high altitude over the Nabatiyah area.

On 19 December 2008, between 0140 and 0505 hours, Israeli enemy warplanes intermittently violated Lebanese airspace over Lebanese territorial waters off the coast of Ra's al-Naqurah.

On 28 December 2008, six Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace as follows:

- At 1002 hours, two warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Shab'a Farms. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1135 hours over Alma al-Sha'b;
- At 1015 hours, two warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Alma al-Sha'b. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving over Alma al-Sha'b at 1155 hours;
- At 2102 hours, two warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Aytarun. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving from over the sea off Naqurah at 2330 hours.

On 30 December 2008, between 1700 and 1830 hours, an Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering from over the sea off Naqurah and heading north. It circled over the South and the Western Bekaa before leaving over Naqurah.

Sea violations

On 18 December 2008, at 1855 hours, an Israeli enemy gunboat in the open sea within occupied Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's Naqurah directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters for three minutes.

On 24 December 2008, at 0115 hours, from its position at Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight towards buoy no. 5 for 30 seconds.

On 26 December 2008, at 1940 hours, from its position at Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight towards the line of buoys for 1 minute and 40 seconds.

Acts of aggression in the field

On 19 December 2008, at 1600 hours, an Israeli enemy patrol violated the technical fence near Bi'r Sh'ayb on the outskirts of Blida, near point BP28, and abducted Lebanese nationals Tarraf Tarraf and Hassan Tarraf.

On 20 December 2008, at 0250 hours, from its position beyond the border at Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight for 20 seconds towards the first five buoys in the line of buoys.

On 21 December 2008, between 1918 and 2003 hours, from its position at Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy for 10 seconds directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters north of the line of buoys and all along that line.

On 24 December 2008, at 1715 hours, as it proceeded from the Zar'it barracks towards Birkat Rishah, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising two Hummer vehicles directed a searchlight towards Tarbikha for five seconds.

Israeli activities

On 18 December 2008, at 1000 hours, as Lebanese national Muhammad Dahir was tilling his land, located near the Lebanese-Palestinian border on the outskirts of Blida at B'ir Sh'ayb, a motorized patrol belonging to the Israeli enemy lobbed three smoke bombs towards Mr. Dahir in occupied territory.

On 21 December 2008, at 1200 hours, as Lebanese national Malik Ghazi was tending his land, which is located adjacent to the Lebanese-Palestinian border between points BP28 and BP29, an Israeli patrol drove up. Its elements disembarked, took up combat positions and pointed their weapons at Mr. Ghazi, without violating the Blue Line.